

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 6, 8, 9, 10-12, and 14-25 remain in the application.

Claim 20 has been amended. A marked-up version of claim 20 is attached hereto on separate pages.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 6, 8, 9, 10-12, and 14-25 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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Marked-up version of the claims:

Claim 20 (amended). A gathering stapler, comprising:

a plurality of cooperating subassemblies including an operatively revolving endless chain having a conveying strand running in a conveying direction [at a certain speed] and conveying gathered folded sheets;

a stapling carriage [attached] assigned to said conveying strand and operatively oscillating in parallel with said conveying strand for running in synchronicity with said conveying strand in the conveying direction within certain time segments;

stapling heads mounted to said stapling carriage and adapted for ejecting staples;

a stapling displacement configuration adapted for activating said stapling heads for ejecting said staples;

a delivery;

an ejector adapted for operatively oscillating in parallel with said conveying strand for running in synchronicity with

said conveying strand in the conveying direction within certain time segments and for operatively oscillating between said conveying strand and said delivery within a path rectilinear to said conveying strand within certain time segments; and

a plurality of subassembly drives;

at least some of said subassembly drives each including a controllable motor.